

Hon. Judge J. Frederick Motz,

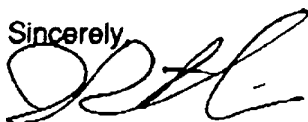
I am writing you regarding the Microsoft anti-trust lawsuit that you are currently presiding over. As you are sure to be receiving a lot of feedback about this I will be brief.

I do not believe the proposed settlement is a solution to the problems and behavior that brought this lawsuit about. I strongly recommend that you reject the current settlement. It actually strengthens Microsoft's position as a monopoly and ensures that it will receive future sales. The benefits they stand to gain will outweigh the initial costs in the long run. As a small business owner in the technology industry I would love to be "punished" in a similar manner. It allows Microsoft to train a new segment of the population in their operating system (which is critical to selling software), it gives them future sales when the 5 year term expires (and Microsoft products require twice as much support as more stable alternatives), it gives them a great PR boost, and doesn't stop them from using their desktop monopoly to squeeze out competitors. The root of anti-trust laws are to protect consumers from being over-charged. I do not see how allowing it (much less forcing it) to brainwash a new generation of users into their way of doing things will prevent their continued abuses.

I would recommend that you look more closely at the alternative posed by RedHat. Or perhaps to solicit a similar proposal from Apple Computers. This would help towards reducing Microsoft's status as a monopoly and offer a greater benefit to impoverished schools that will probably not be able to afford Microsoft five years from now.

In closing I would like to say that I appreciate your opening lines of communication to the public and listening to our input. Thank you and I hope that your ruling on this case will be fair and in the public interest.

Sincerely,



Jason Rexilius
President and Chief Technologist
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Evanston, IL